

killed in the tragic shootings at Fort Hood, Texas, earlier this month.

Maj. Caraveo, a resident of Woodbridge, Va., was a Medical Service Corps Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves who had arrived at Fort Hood just one day prior to the shootings. He was preparing to deploy to Afghanistan, where he was to provide stress counseling to deployed service members.

He was active in his adopted home of Prince William County, where he spent time counseling prison inmates. He also offered his services for anger management training and couples therapy.

A native of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Maj. Caraveo came to the United States as a teenager and became the first in his family to graduate from college. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at El Paso and earned a doctorate in psychology from the University of Arizona.

According to local news accounts, he was a generous, giving friend and father who enjoyed spending time playing in the yard with his children.

Maj. Caraveo is survived by his wife, Angela Rivera; their son and her two daughters; three children from a previous marriage and six siblings.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the remarkable life and service of Maj. Caraveo and the lives of the twelve others killed on that tragic day at Fort Hood. Their brave service, and that of their families, will never be forgotten and we extend our sympathies to them.

DR. HANS R. WILHELMSSEN

### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Dr. Hans R. Wilhelmsen, 33 Degree Sovereign Grant Inspector General, for his distinguished service to the principals of the Masonry, Scottish Rite, and Grand Lodge.

Dr. Wilhelmsen was raised as a Master Mason in December 1982. He received the 32 degree in the Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore in the Spring Class of 1983. In 1991, he became an Honorary Past Master of Pythagoras Lodge and received the Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1995. Dr. Wilhelmsen was coroneted a 33 degree mason in 1997.

During the early years of his Masonic journey, Dr. Wilhelmsen's time was devoted mainly to plastic and reconstructive surgery. He is a 1959 Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. Inspired by the lectures of Dr. Milton Edgerton, Professor of Plastic Surgery, Wilhelmsen matriculated to the University School of Medicine. In 1963, Dr. Wilhelmsen obtained his medical degree in General Surgery. He completed Plastic Surgery training in 1965 at the University of Pittsburgh.

While much of his time was dedicated to plastic and reconstructive surgery, Dr. Wilhelmsen dedicated the spare time he had to Masonry. In 1995, he was appointed to the Scottish Rite Holding Company. Wilhelmsen progressed to assisting the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Dr. Bernard E. Rothman. In

2003, he was coroneted Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Maryland and Active Member of the Supreme Council. Three years later, Dr. Wilhelmsen was awarded the highest honor that is given by the Grand Lodge of Maryland for his contribution to masonry in the State of Maryland. A portrait of him is now mounted in the Pillars of Charity Portrait Gallery at the House of Temple in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Wilhelmsen's medical and personal philosophy emphasizes treating all people with respect and dignity. He is a tireless worker for his patients, whose lives have been enriched by his professional manner and surgical ability. Though his profession left little time for extracurricular activities, Dr. Wilhelmsen has remained actively involved in Masonry.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Dr. Hans R. Wilhelmsen for his commitment to Masonry, Scottish Rite, and Grand Lodge. Dr. Wilhelmsen's enthusiasm and commitment is a remarkable asset to the Masonic organization.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BILL NICHOLS STATE VETERANS HOME

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to an important day for the Bill Nichols State Veterans Home in Alexander City, Alabama.

This important Veterans facility opened November 30, 1989, and was named after William "Bill" Nichols, who was instrumental in making Alabama's first state veterans home a reality. Congressman Nichols, a World War II Veteran and recipient of the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966 and served until his passing in December of 1988.

The Bill Nichols State Veterans Home is a 150-bed skilled nursing home for our Veterans, and because of its excellent quality of care, has well over 100 Veterans awaiting admission. To date, over 1,500 of our heroes have resided there.

The Bill Nichols State Veterans Home was awarded the 2009 Quality Award from the American Health Care Association for its commitment to continuous quality improvement in long-term care. On November 30, 2009, the facility and its proud employees will host a 20th Anniversary Celebration program followed by a luncheon and open house.

I would like to congratulate this facility, its proud employees and the community for reaching this important milestone. These Alabamians are shining examples of dedication for the brave men and women who have served our country in uniform and I wish them all the best at this important occasion.

### THE TAXPAYER INVESTMENT PROTECTION ACT

### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, with little more than the blink of an eye, the American taxpayers have lost \$25 billion—with no transparency, accountability or justification.

In December 2008, the Treasury Department loaned General Motors \$13 billion. In the spring, Treasury loaned GM another \$6 billion. Days before GM declared bankruptcy, the Obama administration poured in another \$30 billion—just in time to convert taxpayer loans to equity and take ownership of this American giant. All of these funds came from the Troubled Asset Relief Program—a bailout never intended for such purposes. As the Congressional Oversight Panel wrote last month, "the use of TARP funds for the automotive industry raises questions regarding both presidents' authority to use these funds under EESA legislation and, more broadly, under the U.S. Constitution."

Last month, the ex-"Car Czar" Steve Rattner, the Government Accountability Office and the TARP Congressional Oversight Panel independently estimated the taxpayers' \$49 billion investment in GM to be worth about \$25 billion. The government's "Bridge Loan to Nowhere" lost half of the taxpayers' money. This is only one company. The U.S. taxpayer owns debt and equity securities in other private corporations, including Chrysler (\$12.5 billion), Citigroup (\$45 billion) and AIG (\$41 billion). How much are taxpayers losing on nearly \$100 billion invested in these struggling firms?

Today, I introduce the "Taxpayer Investment Protection Act," which sets a December 2010 deadline for the Treasury Secretary to divest the federal government's ownership of private firms. These TARP-funded government investments add to the Treasury's \$12 trillion debt burden and put taxpayer funds at risk for greater loss. The time has come to protect the taxpayer from any more losses and set a timetable for withdrawal to get the government out of private business.

### HONORING THE PANTRY OF BROWARD, INC.

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization that has helped countless individuals in my community. The Pantry of Broward, Inc., is a not for profit organization that provides food and support services to low-income seniors and to grandparents raising grandchildren.

In Florida alone, there are 147,893 grandparents raising grandchildren, yet 8 percent of grandparent caregivers live in poverty, as do nearly 10 percent of all seniors. For those who live in Broward County, and the children who rely on them, the Pantry of Broward is an indispensable resource.

Each month, the Pantry of Broward delivers a 60 pound box of food items to hundreds of